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IRON. *adj.*
1. Made of iron.
In iron walls they deem'd me not secure. *Shakeſp. H. VI.*
Get me an iron crow, and bring it ſtraight
Unto my cell. *Shakeſp. Romeo and Juliet.*
Some are of an iron red, ſhining, and polite; others not
polite, but as if powdered with iron duſt. *Woodward.*
Poll-cats and weefels do a great deal of injury to warrens:
the way of taking them is in hutches, and iron traps. *Mortim.*
2. Reſembling iron in colour.
A piece of ſtone of a dark iron grey colour, but in ſome
parts of a ferruginous colour. *Woodward on Foſſils.*
Some of them are of an iron red, and very bright. *Woodes.*
3. Harſh; ſevere; rigid; miſerable; calamitous: as, the iron
age, for an age of hardſhip and wickedneſs. Theſe ideas may
be found more or leſs in all the following examples.
Three vigorous virgins, waiting ſtill behind,
Aſſiſt the throne of th' iron ſcepter'd king. *Craſhaw.*
O ſad virgin, that thy power
Might bid the foul of Orpheus ſing
Such notes as warbled to the ſtring,
Drew iron tears from Pluto's cheek,
And made hell grant what love did ſeek. *Milton.*
In all my iron years of wars and dangers,
From blooming youth down to decaying age,
My fame ne'er knew a ſtain of diſhonour. *Rowe.*
Jove cruſh the nations with an iron rod,
And ev'ry monarch be the ſcourge of God. *Pope's Odeſſey.*
4. Indifſoluble, unbroken.
Raſh Elpenor, in an evil hour,
Dry'd an immeaſurable bowl, and thought
T' exhale his ſuſſer by irriguous ſleep. *Phillips.*
Imprudent: him death's iron ſleep oppreſs.
5. Hard; impenetrable.
I will converſe with iron witted fool,
And unſpectful boys: none are for me,
That look into me with conſiderate eyes. *Shakeſp. R. III.*
TO IRON. *v. a.* [from the noun.]
1. To ſmooth with an iron.
2. To ſhackle with irons.
IRONICAL. *adj.* [*ironique*, Fr. from *irony*.] Expreſſing one thing
and meaning another; ſpeaking by contraries.
In this fallacy may be compris'd all ironical miſtakes, or
expreſſions receiving inverted ſignifications. *Brown.*
I take all your ironical civilities in a literal ſenſe, and ſhall
expect them to be literally performed. *Swift.*
IRONICALLY. *adv.* [from *ironical*.] By the uſe of irony.
Socrates was pronounced by the oracle of Delphos to be the
wiſeſt man of Greece, which he would turn from himſelf
ironically, ſaying, there could be nothing in him to verify the
oracle, except this, that he was not wiſe, and knew it; and
others were not wiſe, and knew it not. *Bacon.*
The dean, ironically grave. *Swift.*
Still ſhunn'd the fool, and laſt'd the knave. *Swift.*
IRONMONGER. *n. ſ.* [from *iron* and *monger*.] A dealer in iron.
IRONWOOD. *n. ſ.* A kind of wood extremely hard, and ſo pon-
derous as to ſink in water. It grows in America. *Rob. Cruſo.*
IRONWORT. *n. ſ.* [*ſideritis*, Latin.] It is a plant with a labiate
flower, conſiſting of one leaf, whoſe upper lip or beard is
divided into three parts: out of the flower-cup riſes the pointal,
attended, as it were, by four embryos; which afterward turn
to ſo many oblong ſeeds, ſhut up in an hulk, which before was
the flower-cup: to theſe marks muſt be added, the flowers
growing in whorles at the wings of the leaves, which are cut
like a creſt, and differ from the other leaves of the plant. *Mill.*
IRONY. *adj.* [from *iron*.] Made of iron; partaking of iron.
The force they are under is real, and that of their fate but
imaginary: it is not ſtrange if the irony chains have more
ſolidity than the contemplative. *Hammond's Fundamentals.*
Some ſprings of Hungary, highly impregnated with vitri-
olick ſalts, diſſolve the body of one metal, ſuppoſe iron, put
into the ſpring; and depoſite, in lieu of the iron particles car-
ried off, coppery particles. *Woodward on Foſſils.*
IRONY. *n. ſ.* [*ironia*, Fr. *leçon*.] A mode of ſpeech in
which the meaning is contrary to the words: as, *Bolingbroke*
was a holy man.
So grave a body, upon ſo ſolemn an occaſion, ſhould not
deal in irony, or explain their meaning by contraries. *Swift.*
IRRADIANCE. *n. ſ.* [*irradiance*, French; *irradiatio*, Latin.]
IRRADIANCE. *v. a.* [*irradiare*, Latin.]
1. Emission of rays or beams of light upon any object.
The principal affection is its tranſlucency; in the diaphanous
and ſparkling, found in many gems, is not diſcoverable in
this. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*
2. Beams of light emitted.
Love ſet the heav'nly ſpirits? Or do they mix
Irradiance & virtual, or immediate touch? *Milt. Par. Lg.*
TO IRRADIATE. *v. a.* [*irradiare*, Latin.]
1. To add with light emitted upon it; to brighten.
When he thus perceives that theſe opacous bodies do not
hinder the eye from judging light to have an equal plenary
diffuſion through the whole place it irradiates, he can have no

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difficulty to allow air, that is diaphanous, to be every where
mingled with light. *Digby on Bodies.*
It is not a converting but a crowning grace; ſuch an one
as irradiates and puts a circle of glory about the head of him
upon whom it deſcends. *South.*
2. To enlighten intellectuallly; to illumine; to illuminate.
Celeſtial light
Shine inward, and the mind through all her pow'rs
Irradiate; there plant eyes: all miſt from thence
Purge and diſperſe. *Milton's Paradise Loſt, b. iii.*
3. To animate by heat or light.
Ethereal or ſolar heat muſt diſſolve, irradiate, and
put thoſe more ſimple parts of matter into motion. *Hale.*
4. To decorate with ſhining ornaments.
No weeping orphan ſaw his father's ſtore
Our ſhrines irradiate, or imblaze the floor. *Pope.*
IRRADIATION. *n. ſ.* [*irradiation*, Fr. from *irradiare*.]
1. The act of emitting beams of light.
If light were a body it ſhould drive away the air, which is
likewiſe a body, wherever it is admitted; for within the ſphere
of the irradiation of it, there is no point but light is
found. *Digby on Bodies.*
The generation of bodies is not effected by irradiation, or
anſwerably unto the propagation of light; but herein a tranſ-
miſſion is made materially from ſome parts, and ideally from
every one. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*
2. Illumination; intellectuall light.
The means of derivation and immediate union of theſe in-
tellegible objects to the underſtanding, are ſometimes divine
and ſupernatural, as by immediate irradiation or revelation.
Hale's Origin of Mankind.
IRRA'TIONAL. *adj.* [*irrationalis*, Latin.]
1. Void of reaſon; void of underſtanding; without the diſ-
courſive faculty.
Thus began
Outrage from lifeleſs things; but diſcord ſiſt,
Daughter of ſin, among th' irra'tional
Death introduc'd. *Milton's Paradise Loſt.*
He hath eat'n, and lives,
And knows, and ſpeaks, and reaſons and diſcerns;
Irra'tional till then. *As in Paradise Loſt, b. ix.*
2. Abſurd; contrary to reaſon.
Since the brain is only a part tranſmittent, and that humours
oſt are precipitated to the lungs before they arrive to the brain,
no kind of benefit can be effected from ſo irra'tional an ap-
plication. *Harvey on Conſumption.*
I ſhall quietly ſubmit, not wiſhing ſo irra'tional a thing as
that every body ſhould be deceived. *Pope.*
IRRA'TIONALITY. *n. ſ.* [from *irra'tional*.] Want of reaſon.
IRRA'TIONALLY. *adv.* [from *irra'tional*.] Without reaſon;
abſurdly.
IRRECLAIMABLE. *adj.* [*in* and *reclaimable*.] Not to be re-
claimed; not to be changed to the better.
As for obſtinate, irreclaimable, profeſſed enemies, we muſt
expect their calumnies will continue. *Adiſon's Freeholder.*
IRRECONCILABLE. *adj.* [*irreconcilable*, Fr. *in* and *reconcilable*.]
1. Not to be reconciled; not to be appeaſed.
Wage eternal war,
Irreconcilable to our grand foe. *Milton.*
A weak unequal faction may animate a government; but
when it grows equal in ſtrength, and irreconcilable by animos-
ity, it cannot end without ſome criſis. *Templ.*
There are no factions, though irreconcilable to one another,
that are not united in their affection to you. *Dr. d'n.*
2. Not to be made conſiſtent. It has *with or to*.
As he was ſtrictly virtuous herſelf, ſo ſhe always put the
beſt conſtruction upon the words and actions of her neigh-
bours, except where they were irreconcilable to the rules of
honneſty and decency. *Arbutnot's Hiſt. of John Bull.*
Since the ſenſe I oppoſe is attended with ſuch groſs irrecon-
cilable abſurdities, I preſume I need not offer any thing further
in ſupport of the one, or in diſproof of the other. *Rowe.*
This eſſential power of gravitation or attraction is irrecon-
cilable with the atheiſt's own doctrine of a chaos. *Bentley.*
All that can be tranſmitted from the ſtars is wholly unac-
countable, and irreconcilable to any ſyſtem of ſcience. *Bentley.*
IRRECONCILABLENESS. *n. ſ.* [from *irreconcilable*.] Impoſſi-
bility to be reconciled.
IRRECONCILABLY. *adv.* [from *irreconcilable*.] In a manner
not admitting reconciliation.
IRRECONCILED. *adj.* [*in* and *reconciled*.] Not atoned.
A ſervant dies in many *irreconciled* iniquities. *Shakeſp. H. V.*
IRRECOVERABLE. *adj.* [*in* and *recoverable*.]
1. Not to be regained; not to be reſtored or repaired.
Time, in a natural ſenſe, is irrecoverable: the moment juſt
ſleſt by us, it is impoſſible to re-call.
2. Not to be remedied.
The irrecoverable loſs of ſo many livings of principal
value.
It concerns every man, that would not triſſe away his ſoul,
and fool himſelf into irrecoverable miſery, with the greateſt
ſeriousneſs to enquire. *Tillot's Sermons.*
IRRECOVERABLY.

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IRRECOVERABLY. *adv.* [from *irrecoverable*.] Beyond reco-
very; paſt repair.
O dark, dark, dark amid' the blaze of noon;
Irrecoverably dark, total eclipse,
Without all hope of day. *Milton's Agonistes.*
The credit of the Exchequer is irrecoverably loſt by the laſt
breach with the bankers. *Temple.*
IRREDUCIBLE. *adj.* [*in* and *reducible*.] Not to be brought or
reduced.
Theſe obſervations ſeem to argue the corpufcles of air to
be irreducible into water. *Boyle.*
IRREFRAGABILITY. *n. ſ.* [from *irrefragable*.] Strength of
argument not to be refuted.
IRREFRAGABLE. *adj.* [*irrefragabilis*, ſchool Latin; *irre-*
fragabile, Fr.] Not to be confuted; ſuperior to argumental
oppoſition.
Strong and irrefragable the evidences of Chriſtianity muſt
be: they who reſiſted them would reſiſt every thing. *Atterbury.*
The danger of introducing unexperienced men was urged
as an irrefragable reaſon for working by flow degrees. *Swift.*
IRREFRAGABLY. *adv.* [from *irrefragable*.] With force above
confutation.
That they denied a future ſtate is evident from St. Paul's
reaſonings, which are of no force but only on that ſuppoſition,
as Origen largely and irrefragably proves. *Atterbury.*
IRREFUTABLE. *adj.* [*irrefutabilis*, Latin.] Not to be over-
thrown by argument.
IRREGULAR. *adj.* [*irregularis*, Fr. *irregularis*, Latin.]
1. Deviating from rule, cuſtom, or nature.
The am'rous youth
Obtain'd of Venus his deſire,
Howe'er irregular his fire.
2. Immethodical; not confined to any certain rule or order.
This motion ſeems excentric and irregular, yet not well
to be reſiſted or quieted. *King Charles.*
Regular
Then moſt, when moſt irregular they ſeem. *Milton.*
The numbers of pindariſms are wild and irregular, and
ſometimes ſeem harſh and uncouth. *Cowley.*
3. Not being according to the laws of virtue. A ſoft word for
virtue.
IRREGULARITY. *n. ſ.* [*irregularitas*, Fr. from *irregular*.]
1. Deviation from rule.
2. Neglect of method and order.
This irregularity of its unruly and tumultuous motion might
afford a beginning unto the common opinion. *Brown.*
As theſe vaſt heaps of mountains are thrown together with
ſo much irregularity and confuſion, they form a great variety
of hollow bottoms. *Addiſon on Italy.*
3. Inordinate praſſice.
Religion is ſomewhat leſs in danger of corruption, while
the finner acknowledges the obligations of his duty, and is
aſhamed of his irregularities. *Rogers's Sermons.*
IRREGULARLY. *adv.* [from *irregular*.] Without obſervation
of rule or method.
Phaeton,
By the wild courſes of his fancy drawn,
From Eaſt to Weſt irregularly hurl'd,
Fiſt ſet on fire himſelf, and then the world. *Dryden jun.*
Your's is a foul irregularly great,
Which wanting temper, yet abounds with heat. *Dryden.*
It may give ſome light to thoſe whoſe concern for their lit-
tle ones makes them ſo irregularly bold as to conſult their own
reaſon, in the education of their children, rather than to rely
upon old cuſtom. *Locke.*
TO IRREGULATE. *v. a.* [from *in* and *regula*, Latin.] To
make irregular; to diſorder.
Its fluctuations are but motions ſubſervient, which winds,
ſhelves, and every interjacency irregularates. *Brown's Vulg. Err.*
IRRELATIVE. *adj.* [*in* and *relativus*, Latin.] Having no re-
ference to any thing; ſingle; unconnected.
Separated by the voice of God, things in their ſpecies came
out in uncommunicated varieties, and irrelative ſingularities.
Brown's Vulgar Errors.
IRRELIGION. *n. ſ.* [*irreligion*, Fr. *in* and *religion*.] Contempt
of religion; impiety.
The weapons with which I combat irreligion are already
conſecrated. *Dryden.*
We behold every inſtance of prophaneneſs and irreligion,
not only committed, but defended and gloried in. *Rogers.*
IRRELIGIOUS. *adj.* [*irreligiouſus*, Fr. *in* and *religiouſus*.]
1. Contemning religion; impious.
The illuſe of an irreligiouſus Moor. *Shakeſp. Tit. Andron.*
Whoever ſees theſe irreligiouſus men,
With burthen of a ſickneſs weak and faint,
But hears them talking of religion then,
And vowing of their ſouls to ev'ry faint,
Shame and reproach is generally the portion of the impious
and irreligiouſus. *South's Sermons.*
2. Contrary to religion.
Wherein that Scripture ſtandeth not the church of God in
any ſtead, or ſerveth nothing at all to direct, but may be let

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paſs as needleſs to be conſulted with, we judge it profane, im-
pious, and irreligiouſus to think. *H. ſher.*
Might not the queen's domeſticks be obliged to avoid ſwear-
ing, and irreligiouſus profane diſcourſe? *Swift.*
IRRELIGIOUSLY. *adv.* [from *irreligiouſus*.] With impiety;
with irreligion.
IRREMEABLE. *adj.* [*irremediabilis*, Latin.] Admitting no re-
turn.
The keeper charm'd, the chief without delay
Paſs'd on, and took th' irremediable way. *Dryden.*
IRREMEABLE. *adj.* [*irremediabile*, Fr. *in* and *remediabile*.]
Admitting no cure; not to be remedied.
They content themſelves with that which was the irremediable
error of former times, or the neceſſity of the preſent hath caſt
upon them. *Hooker.*
A ſteddy hand, in governing of military affairs, is more
requiſite than in times of peace, becauſe an error committed
in war may prove irremediable. *Bacon.*
Whatever he conſults you about, unleſs it lead to ſome fatal
and irremediable miſchief, be ſure you adviſe only as a
friend. *Locke.*
IRREMEADIABLY. *adv.* [from *irremediabile*.] Without cure.
It happens to us irremediably and inevitably, that we may
perceive theſe accidents are not the fruits of our labour, but
gifts of God. *Taylor's Worthy Communicant.*
IRREMISSIBLE. *adj.* [*in* and *remiſſio*, Lat. *irremiſſibile*, French.]
Not to be pardoned.
IRREMISSIBLENESS. *n. ſ.* [from *irremiſſibile*.] The quality of
being not to be pardoned.
Thence ariſes the aggravation and irremiſſibleneſs of the
fin. *Hammond on Fundamentals.*
IRREMOVABLE. *adj.* [*in* and *remove*.] Not to be moved;
not to be changed.
He's irremovable,
Reſolv'd for flight. *Shakeſp. Winter's Tale.*
IRRENOUWED. *adj.* [*in* and *renouo*.] Void of honour.
For all he did was to deceive good knights,
And draw them from purſuit of praiſe and fame
To ſluggiſh ſloth and ſenſual delights,
And end their days with irrenowned ſhame. *Fairy Queen.*
IRREPARABLE. *adj.* [*irreparabilis*, Lat. *irreparable*, Fr.] Not
to be recovered; not to be repaired.
Irreparable is the loſs, and patience ſays it is not paſt her
cure. *Shakeſp. Tempeſt.*
Toi'd with loſs irrepairable. *Milton.*
It is an irrepairable injuſtice we are guilty of, when we are
prejudiced by the looks of thoſe whom we do not know. *Addiſ.*
The ſtory of Deucalion and Pyrrha teaches, that piety and
innocence cannot miſs of the divine protection, and that the
only loſs irrepairable is that of our probity. *Garth.*
IRREPARABLY. *adv.* [from *irreparable*.] Without recovery;
without amends.
Such adventures befall artifiſs irrepairably. *Boyle.*
The cutting off that time induſtry and gifts, whereby ſhe would
be nourished, were irrepairably injurious to her. *Dec. of Piety.*
IRREPLEVABLE. *adj.* [*in* and *replevy*.] Not to be redeemed.
A law term.
IRREPREHENSIBLE. *adj.* [*irreprehenſibilis*, Fr. *irreprehenſibilis*,
Latin.] Exempt from blame.
IRREPREHENSIBLY. *adv.* [from *irreprehenſibilis*.] Without blame.
IRREPRESENTABLE. *adj.* [*in* and *repreſent*.] Not to be figured
by any repreſentation.
God's irrepresentable nature doth hold againſt making images
of God. *Stillfleet.*
IRREPROACHABLE. *adj.* [*in* and *reproachable*.] Free from
blame; free from reproach.
He was a ſerious ſincere Chriſtian, of an innocent, irre-
proachable, nay, exemplary life. *Atterbury.*
Their prayer may be, that they may raiſe up and breed as
irreproachable a young family as their parents have done. *Pope.*
IRREPROACHABLY. *adv.* [from *irreproachable*.] Without
blame; without reproach.
IRREPROVEABLE. *adj.* [*in* and *reproveable*.] Not to be blamed;
irreproachable.
IRRESISTIBILITY. *n. ſ.* [from *irreſiſtible*.] Power or force
above oppoſition.
The doctrine of irreſiſtibility of grace, in working whatfo-
ever it works, if it be acknowledged, there is nothing to be
affixt to gratitude. *Hammond on Fundamentals.*
IRRESISTIBLY. *adv.* [*irreſiſtibilis*, Fr. *in* and *reſiſtibilis*.] Supe-
rior to oppoſition.
Fear doth grow from an apprehenſion of the Deity, inducd
with irreſiſtible power to hurt; and is of all affections, anger
excepted, the unaptelt to admit conference with reaſon. *Hook.*
In mighty quadrate join'd
Of union irreſiſtible. *Milton.*
Fear of God is inward acknowledgment of an holy juſt
Being, armed with almighty and irreſiſtible power. *Tillotſon.*
There can be no difference in the ſubjects, where the appli-
cation is almighty and irreſiſtible, as in creation. *Rogers.*
Won by the charm
Of goodneſs irreſiſtible. ſhe bluſh'd conſent. *Thomſon.*
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IRRESISTIBLY.